

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SY-05

MCT-01 /058 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7244

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, GW

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO MURDER OF FEDERAL ATTORNEY
GENERAL BUBACK

REF: STUTTGART 597 (NOTAL)

1. THE MURDER OF BUBACK AND COMPANIONS HAS DRAWN
IMMEDIATE, SHARP CONDEMNATION FROM ALL POLITICAL CIRCLES
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IN BONN. WHILE SPD/FDP FIGURES GENERALLY CALL FOR FULL
EFFORTS TO APPREHEND THE CULPRITS, CDU/CSU SPOKESMEN
INSINUATE A MUTED BUT UNMISTAKABLE NOTE OF CRITICISM
AGAINST THE COALITION. FOR EXAMPLE, CDU/CSU FRAKTION
CHAIRMAN HELMUT KOHL MADE THE POINT THAT THE MURDER SHOWS
THAT, DESPITE EFFORTS IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM,
THERE IS STILL A DANGEROUS POTENTIAL FOR POLITICAL

VIOLENCE IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC AND A NEED FOR MORE EFFECTIVE ANTI-TERRORIST MEASURES. CSU BUNDESTAG SPOKESMAN ZIMMERMANN SAID THAT THE MURDER SIGNALS TO ALL BUNDESTAG PARTIES THE NEED "ONCE AND FOR ALL TO END THE FATEFUL LIBERALIZATION OF RELEVANT PENAL LAWS."

2. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND MOST OF HIS MINISTERS ARE OUT OF TOWN FOR THE HOLIDAY. INTERIOR MINISTER MAIHOFFER HAS PLUGGED THE FEDERAL CRIMINAL OFFICE (BUNDESKRIMINAL-AMT) INTO THE CASE AND IS KEEPING SCHMIDT INFORMED ON A CURRENT BASIS.

3. SOME SPD CIRCLES SEE THE KARLSRUHE MURDERS AS A REPRISAL FOR THE RECENT ROUNDUP OF TERRORISTS IN SWEDEN. WE CANNOT YET BE CERTAIN THAT THIS IS SO. WHATEVER THE MOTIVATION, HOWEVER, THE ASSASSINATION WILL IN ALL LIKELIHOOD REOPEN THE POLITICAL DEBATE IN THIS COUNTRY ON HOW BEST TO MAINTAIN INTERNAL ORDER. (THIS DEBATE FLARED UP AGAIN LAST MONTH AS A RESULT OF THE VARIOUS "BUGGING" AFFAIRS.) IN THE PAST, THE CDU/CSU HAS, WITH SOME EFFECT, ACCUSED THE SPD/FDP OF FAILING TO DO ENOUGH TO PROTECT GERMANS AGAINST VIOLENCE. THE STATEMENTS BY KOHL AND OTHERS SUGGEST THAT THE OPPOSITION WILL REVIVE THIS ARGUMENT IN THE WAKE OF WHAT HAPPENED IN KARLSRUHE THIS MORNING.

4. THE ASSASSINATION ALSO ADDS ANOTHER DENT TO THE ALREADY BATTERED ARMOR OF MINISTER MAIHOFFER. AT ONE POINT IN THE BUNDESTAG "BUGGING" DEBATE LAST MONTH, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAIHOFFER DEFENDED HIS MEASURES WITH THE CLAIM THAT THEY HAD SUCCESSFULLY STOPPED TERRORISM IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. THE DAYLIGHT MURDER OF THE FRG'S TOP PROSECUTING OFFICIAL STRIPS THAT ARGUMENT OF A GOOD DEAL OF ITS PUBLIC PERSUASIVENESS. STOESEL

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